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Message Text

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67
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 EPA-04 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00

PM-04 USIA-15 OES-06 SS-15 SP-02 INT-05 FEA-01 CEA-01

FRB-01 CIEP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01

OMB-01 /123 W
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R 281110Z APR 76
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1056
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2048

UNCLAS EC BRUSSELS 04184

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV,EEC
SUBJECT: US-EC ENVIRONMENTAL MEETING

REFS: (A) EC BRUSSELS A-161,(B) STATE 203140, 27 AUG 1975

1. SUMMARY: OFFICIALS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AND EC'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SERVICE MET FOR A TOUR D' HORIZON OF US-EC ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AMONG THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED WERE THE CONTROL OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES,AND THE PRINCIPLE OF "BEST AVAILABLE CONTROL TECHNOLOGY." END SUMMARY.

2. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE US DELEGATION TO THE CCMS CONFERENCE NOW MEETING IN BRUSSELS (DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATORS BRANDS AND GAGE OF EPA,F ALLEN HARRIS,SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE ADMINISTRATOR,EPA,AND HERBERT SPIELMAN FROM OES, STATE) HAS A SHORT MEETING APRIL 26 WITH CARPENTIER,MANDL, JOHNSON AND ZITO OF THE EC ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SERVICE (EPS). THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY A LUNCH GIVEN BY AMBASSADOR HINTON AND ATTENDED BY VICE PRESIDENT SCARASCIA-MUGNOZZA OF THE
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EC COMMISSION.

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3. IN THE PRE-LUNCHEON MEETING CARPENTIER,THE DIRECTOR OF EPS,OUTLINED THE EC'S SECOND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PROGRAM (REF A) AND BRIEFLY LISTED THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROPOSALS THAT EPS IS NOW WORKING ON. CARPENTIER EXPLAINED THAT IN THE COMING YEAR THE EC ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM WOULD BE MORE AMBITOUS AND GIVE SPECIAL PRIORITY TO THE FIGHT AGAINST WATER POLLUTION. OVER THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS HE EXPECTED COMMISSION PROPOSALS DEFINING QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR FISH - AND SHELLFISH - BREEDING WATERS,ON THE PROTECTION OF UNDERGROUND AND IRRIGATION WATER,AND EMISSION STANDARDS FOR EFFLUENTS. THE COMMISSION WILL ALSO BE FOCUSING ON THE CONTROL AND USE OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES LIKELY TO BE HARMFUL TO HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT AND ON THE TRANSPORT,STORAGE,AND TREATMENT OF TOXIC AND DANGEROUS WASTES. ALSO FORESEEN ARE DIRECTIVES FOR THE PROTECTION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES OF BIRDS,ON SULFUR DIOXIDE, ON PERMISSIBKE LEAD LEVELS IN GASOLINE,AND ON THE HARMONIZATION WITHIN THE COMMUNITH OF METHODS TO MEASURE NOISE POLLUTION.

4. BRANDS AND GAGE OF EPA RELATED US GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES ON CURRENT ENVIRONMENTAL MEASURES,ESPECIALLY THE CLEAN AIR ACT,THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT,AND THE TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTRL BILL. THE EPS STAFF SHOWED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN THE PRINCIPLE OF "BEST AVAILABLE CONTROL TECHNOLOGY," AS DEVELOPED IN THE FWPCA,AND CARPENTIER STATED HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS APPROACH ADOPTED FOR THE CONTROL OF EFFLUENTS WITHIN THE EC THE EPA APPROACH TO CONTROLLING 65 TOXIS SUBSTANCES FOR 21 PRIORITY INDUSTRIES,NOW BEING CONSIDERED UNDER THE FWPCA EFFLUENT GUIDELINES,WAS ALSO DISCUSSEDTHE COMMISSION EVINCED INTEREST IN INCLUDING BOTH OF THESE SUBJECTS IN HE US-EC ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATIONS PROPOSED FOR JULY 12-14.

5. ON THE QUESTION OF PRIOR CONTROL OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CARPENTIER STATED THAT EPS WAS LEANING TOWARDS MECHANISMS WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE MANDATORY SUBMISSION BY THE PRODUCERS OF NOTIFICATION AND TEST RESULTS TO COMPETENT NATIONAL AUTHORITIES BEFORE A NEW SUBSTANCE COULD BE PLACED ON THE MARKET SUBMISSION OF THESE RESULTS WOLD BE SUFFICIENT TO PERMIT MARKETING SUBSEQUENTLY,IT WOULD BE THE RESPONSIBILITY
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OF COMPETENT NATIONAL AUTHORITIES TO REVIEW THESE RESULTS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE THE STATUS OF THE TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL BILL WAS ALSO MENTIONED AS AN AGENDA ITEM FOR THE JULY MEETING.

6. SPIELMAN OF OES INQUIRED ABOUT THE COMMISSON'S PROGRESS IN DEVELOPING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT PROCEDURES SINCE THE VISIT LAST AUGUST TO WASHINGTON OF DIETER HAMMER,FORMER

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HEAD OF THE EPS SECTION ON GENERAL PLANNING,TO STUDY THE ENVIRONMENTA
L
ASSESSMENT PROCESS IN THE US (REF B). CARPENTIER RESPONDED
THAT THE EPS HAS CONTRACTED OUT A STUDY ON THIS
SUBJECT TO A PRIVATE BRITISH RESEARCHER AND EXPECTED RESULTS
AT THE END OF THIS YEAR,WHICH HE HOPED COLD BE DRAWN UP AS
A PROPOSAL FOR SUBMISSIO TO EC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS BY
MAY, 1977.

7. DURING LUNCH CARPENTIER AND SCARASCIA- MUGNOZZA REVIEWED
THE COMMUNITY'S ACTION IN THE INTERNATIONAL AREA AND FESAW
CONTINUED ACTIVE PARTICIPATION BY THE COMMISSION IN THE
VARIOUS CONVENTIONS (PARIS,BARECLONA,RHINE,AND STRASBOURG)
TO WHICH THE COMMUNITH IS ALREADY A PARTY CARPENTIER
EXPLAINED THE USSR'S UNSUCCESSFUL ATEEMPTS TO PARTICIPATE IN
THE RECENT UNEP- SPONSORED BARCELONA CONVENTION ON MARINE
POLLUTION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND ITS ATTEMPTS,WORKING THROUGH
THIRD COUNTRIES,TO PREVENT EC COMMISSION PARTICIPATION AND
SIGNATURE OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT.

8. SCARASCIA-MUGNOZZA MENTIONED AT THE END OF LUNCH THAT HE
WAS INTERESTED IN STOPPING IN WASHINGTON IN MAY ON HIS WAY
TO THE HABITAT CONFERENCE IN CANADA AND HOPED A MEETING WITH
RUSSELL TRAIN AT EPA COULD BE ARRANGED. THE MISSION WILL BE
IN CONTACT WITH ZITO OF EPS ABOUT SCARASCIA'S SCHEDULE AND WILL
FORWARD HIS PLANS TO EPA.
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